

The minutes reflect the writers impression of the discussions and proposals and are not intended to imply or announce policy or directives. Refer to the specifications to determine MDT requirements.

June 21st, 2006
MCA-MDT Technical Committee Meeting

Glen Frost opened the meeting with introductions.

MDT NEW BUSINESS

1. Summary of Specification Revisions. MDT distributed a summary of active specs with two proposed revisions that will be distributed at the end of June. MDT stated that the deadline for comments on Supplemental Specs 104.06, 203.01.1, 203.04.1, 555.03.3, 610.05, 703.16, and 712.02.7 is June 30th. MDT also informed MCA that two proposed supplemental specs, 203.03.3 and 701.04.1, will be distributed for review at the end of the month. This revision changes 90% compaction to 95 % for safety slope embankments. Please submit comments on any proposed spec changes to mdtspecifications@mt.gov

AGENDA ITEMS

- 1. Horizontal Line Control.** MDT has decided they will pay for this item but it has to be treated as any other work item (1. on the schedule 2. not performed until after the pre-con 3. contract time will be charged). MDT has to be able to inspect and document it to pay for it. MDT will offer some guidance to the field personnel on how to handle this.
- 2. 202.03.1 Bridge Removal.** This item will be removed from next month's agenda.
- 3. Traffic Control.** MCA indicated that they had received the Traffic Control Guidance Handout but still have not forwarded any comments to MDT.
- 4. Subcontractor Requirements.** This item will be removed from July's agenda.
- 5. Concrete Acceptance.** MCA stated that they would submit a letter with a summary of issues discussed previously. The biggest issue is the penalty that is passed on from the Prime Contractor to its supplier. MDT is also still looking at the possibility of third party testing. MDT also informed MCA that they would be seriously looking at new High Performance Concrete (HPC). MDT strongly feels that most of these concerns could be alleviated with the implementation of this HPC.
- 6. 107.08 Load Restrictions.** MDT has not received any additional proposals with specific truck axle and weight configurations from MDT. This item will be removed from the agenda for next month.
- 7. CBC, CTS Tables 701-8 and 701-10.** MDT is still working on this and will be discussed further next month.
- 8. Ride Spec and Plant Mix Forum.** This item will be removed from the agenda for next month.
- 9. Sulfate Soundness.** MDT will meet with the MSU research team within a week or two of the meeting to review their findings. MDT should have some results by the July meeting.
- 10. Pulverization.** MDT was unable to prepare a draft specification for the June meeting but expects to have the language ready for the July meeting.

- 11. Contract Time and Chipping.** MCA still expressed some concerns with the short time available to perform chip seals. This item will be removed from the agenda for next month.
- 12. 2007 Engineering Conference.** MCA suggested inviting Mike Praul, FHWA Maine Division to speak about HPC at the Construction Conference in February of 2007. MDT will look into this.
- 13. Method Specifications.** MDT would like to get away from Method Specifications entirely but the state of practice and industry does not allow for this freedom yet. This item will be dropped from the agenda for next month.
- 14. Environmental Issues.** MDT instructed the Contractors to pay special attention to BMP's and the SWPPP report. This should help both sides meet the requirements of the permits and regulations.
- 15. Utilities.** MCA and MDT are still working together to seek possible solutions. MCA will schedule the next Utilities task force meeting.
- 16. Asphalt Availability.** This item will be removed from the agenda for next month.

NEW BUSINESS FROM MCA

- 1. Escalation of Materials.** MCA handed out a specification from Wyoming on how to handle the escalation of price for materials such as steel, asphalt, fabrics and cement. MCA stated that on most projects, these products are produced 15-18 months after bid allowing for the price to change. MDT felt these concerns were handled under Subsections 104.02.3 Significant Changes in the Character of Work and 109.07 Payment for Material on Hand which are very similar to the Wyoming spec handed out by MCA. MDT will look into this concern further but also felt that price escalation for asphalt could also be handled by use of the Fuel Price Escalation Clause.
- 2. Temporary Traffic Striping.** MCA does not like this special provision that has recently showed up on a project because it is open to the determination of the engineer. The special provision does not allow sand blasting as an option. MDT will look into this for the next meeting.
- 3. MSE Walls.** MCA informed MDT that there is some inconsistency with the backfill specified on projects. The contractor designs according to the backfill specified but there have been some instances where the backfill specified will change. MCA requested some guidance on this issue. MDT will look into this for the meeting next month.

The next meeting will be **July 19th, 2006**, beginning at 8:00 a.m. at the **MCA Office**.